

"All the News  
That's Fit to Print"

# The New York Times

Late Edition

Today, mostly sunny, unseasonably warm, high 78. **Tonight**, increasing clouds, mild, low 64. **Tomorrow**, limited sun, mild, showers arriving, high 75. Weather map, Page D10.

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## Buyers Pounce As Homes Go On the Block

### Lending Crisis Brings New Age of Auctions

By JOHN LELAND

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 21 — In a down real estate market, they came to buy. They came early, they came in numbers and they came with bank checks for \$5,000.

By 10 a.m. Saturday, more than 700 people filled a hall in the convention center here for what real estate agents say is the largest auction of foreclosed properties ever in Minnesota, with more than 300 houses or apartments for sale in two days. Opening bids ranged from \$1,000 — for a three-bedroom house — to \$729,000, for a five-bedroom house on 11.9 acres. The crowd was standing-room only, with more waiting to enter. Some were looking for homes, others for investments.

"It's a symptom of the foreclosure crisis," said Jim Davnie, a Democratic state representative in Minnesota. Mr. Davnie said he had concern that areas already hit by the foreclosure crisis would now be hit by investors buying properties to rent them out, "which makes neighborhoods less stable than owner-occupied housing."

But in the loud, overcrowded hall, the misery of subprime loans, exploding adjustable rate mortgages and slumping sales meant one thing: opportunity.

"Who's got \$150,000?" said the auctioneer, Mark Buleziuk, motor-mouthing the sale of a four-bedroom house that he said was worth \$234,000. "It's a buyer's market," Mr. Buleziuk urged.

The auction, like others that have proliferated around the country this year, tapped the contradictory forces of the current real estate market, in which mass foreclosures and sinking home values, along with predictions of more pain to come, still stoke the urgency to buy right now, before it is too late.

"The market's really low right now, so you can get a good price," said Lori Crook, a food server at Keys Cafe who said she was looking for a place she could fix up

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## LIBRARIES SHUN DEALS TO PLACE BOOKS ON WEB

### TECH GIANTS REBUFFED

#### Scanning by Microsoft and Google Comes With Restrictions

By KATIE HAFNER

Several major research libraries have rebuffed offers from Google and Microsoft to scan their books into computer databases, saying they are put off by restrictions these companies want to place on the new digital collections.

The research libraries, including a large consortium in the Boston area, are instead signing on with the Open Content Alliance, a nonprofit effort aimed at making their materials broadly available.

Libraries that agree to work with Google must agree to a set of terms, which include making the material unavailable to other commercial search services. Microsoft places a similar restriction on the books it converts to electronic form. The Open Content Alliance, by contrast, is making the material available to any search service.

Google pays to scan the books and does not directly profit from the resulting Web pages, although the books make its search engine more useful and more valuable. The libraries can have their books scanned again by another company or organization for dissemination more broadly.

It costs the Open Content Alliance as much as \$30 to scan each book, a cost shared by the group's members and benefactors, so there are obvious financial benefits to libraries of Google's wide-ranging offer, started in 2004.

Many prominent libraries have accepted Google's offer — including the New York Public Library and libraries at the University of Michigan, Harvard, Stanford and Oxford. Google expects to scan 15 million books from those collections over the next decade.

But the resistance from some libraries, like the Boston Public

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### Fires Strike California

Wildfires like this one in Malibu erupted in Southern California yesterday, killing one. Page A14.

## F.T.C. CHIEF BALKS AT INTEL INQUIRY

### But Informal Antitrust Review Continues

By STEPHEN LABATON

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21 — The head of the Federal Trade Commission has rejected requests by lawmakers, other commissioners and a small rival company to open a formal antitrust investigation of Intel, the world's largest maker of computer microprocessors, for anticompetitive conduct, government officials and lawyers involved in the proceeding said.

In recent weeks, regulators in Korea and with the European Commission have separately accused Intel of antitrust violations by offering large discounts to computer makers in exchange for their not using products by the rival company, Advanced Micro Devices, which has struggled to compete and has waged a global antitrust campaign against Intel. Japanese officials made similar accusations in 2005.

The trade commission has been conducting an informal review of A.M.D.'s complaints for more than a year, gathering thousands of documents from Intel and its customers. But the commission's chairwoman, Deborah P. Majoras, has rejected requests to elevate the inquiry to a formal investigation, which would give staff members the authority to issue subpoenas and compel testimony from executives of the

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#### MAN IN THE NEWS

## A Son of Immigrants Rises In a Deeply Southern State

By ADAM NOSSITER

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 21 — The first words from Bobby Jindal to his supporters after he won the Louisiana governor's race on Saturday night were not about his victory, but L.S.U.'s triumph over Auburn the same day.

The message could not have been clearer: I'm one of you, a normal, red-blooded football-loving Louisiana guy. It is a theme that seems to have informed the youthful Republican congressman's every step, from his decision at age 4 to jettison his given name of Piyush for that of a character in the television series "The Brady Bunch" to the attentive faith-infused courting of conservatives that led to his victory on Saturday with 54 percent of the vote.

Mr. Jindal's efforts only high-

light, though, what is glaringly obvious to anyone who sees and hears the slight 36-year-old son of immigrants from India. He is a highly unusual politician, having become the nation's first Indian-American governor in a Southern state where race is inseparable from politics.

Still, Mr. Jindal offered something few others could to a state that is on its knees. Louisiana is more desperate than ever, a place where the glaring needs of its citizens evidently trumped considerations of race and ethnicity.

He has taken an already lengthy public policy résumé, mostly in health care, along with sterling educational credits (Brown University and Oxford, as a Rhodes Scholar) and come back home instead of using his

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TIM MUELLER/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bobby Jindal, 36, a Republican elected Louisiana governor on Saturday, in Baton Rouge with his mother, wife and son.



CHRIS LIVINGSTON/EUROPEAN PRESSPHOTO AGENCY

Rudolph W. Giuliani, left, and Mitt Romney at the debate.

### Republicans Turn Up the Heat

The Republican presidential candidates escalated their attacks on one another at a debate in Orlando, Fla., clashing over who was the most conservative, most experienced and most electable as they tried to distinguish themselves two and a half months before the first votes are cast.

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## As Drudge Stays on Top of Game, Clinton Finds Way to Play Along

By JIM RUTENBERG

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21 — As Senator Barack Obama prepared to give a major speech on Iraq one morning a few weeks ago, a flashing red-siren alert went up on the Drudge Report Web site. It read, "Queen of the Quarter: Hillary Crushes Obama in Surprise Fund-Raising Surge," and, "\$27 Million, Sources Tell Drudge Report."

Within minutes, the Drudge site had injected Senator Hillary

Rodham Clinton's fund-raising success into the day's political news on the Internet and cable television. It did not halt coverage of Mr. Obama's speech or his criticism of her vote to authorize the war in 2002, but along the front lines of the campaign — the hourly, intensely fought effort to capture the news cycle or deny ownership of it to the other side — it was a telling assault.

Mrs. Clinton's aides declined to discuss how the Drudge Report got access to her latest fund-raising figures nearly 20 minutes before the official announcement went to supporters. But it was a prime example of a development that has surprised much of the political world: Mrs. Clinton is learning to play nice with the Drudge Report and the powerful, elusive and conservative-leaning man behind it.

That man, Matt Drudge, came to national prominence a decade ago as a nemesis of the Clintons

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#### INSIDE

### Red Sox Reach World Series

Dustin Pedroia and the Boston Red Sox defeated the Cleveland Indians, 11-2, and advanced to a World Series matchup against Colorado. SPORTSMONDAY, PAGE D1



ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

### Plot to Kill Israeli Prime Minister Foiled, Official Says

Israel's internal security chief said that Palestinian gunmen had plotted to assassinate Prime Minister Ehud Olmert in June, but that the plan was foiled by intelligence officials. PAGE A13

### Heavy Fighting in Baghdad

American forces came under heavy fire in Sadr City, the Shiite enclave in Baghdad, and returned fire, killing 49 militants, according to an American military official and a military statement about the fighting. PAGE A12

### Open to Chinese Goods

Recent recalls of dangerous imports from China have caused some concern among American consumers but not a rejection of Chinese-made products, a New York Times/CBS News poll finds. BUSINESS DAY, PAGE C3

### A Cheney Warning for Iran

Vice President Dick Cheney called the government in Iran "a growing obstacle to peace in the Middle East" and promised "serious consequences" if Tehran did not abandon its nuclear program. His comments followed President Bush's warning that a nuclear-armed Iran could lead to "World War III." PAGE A8



### New View of City's Economy

With large Wall Street firms announcing cuts in jobs or profits, or both, analysts and city officials who predicted a gradual cooling of the New York City economy are beginning to ponder something worse. PAGE B1

### Cabdrivers Plan 2nd Strike

Cabdrivers angry about a city plan requiring the installation of global positioning systems and credit card machines are calling for another strike today. PAGE B3

### Bands With Broadband

The 2007 CMJ Music Marathon's lineup included hundreds of indie rock bands, like Black Kids, a fledgling group with buzz on the Internet. PAGE E1